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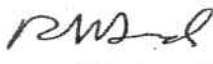
State of Wisconsin

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Date: October 28, 2005

TO: Community Support Programs

From: Ron Diamond M.D.   
Psychiatric Consultant [diamond@wisc.edu](mailto:diamond@wisc.edu)  
Bureau of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

RE: Billing Medicare for Long-Acting Injections of Antipsychotic Medications

With the implementation of the new Medicare Part D drug benefit that begins January 1, 2006, new billing processes for drugs will be required of providers who serve Medicare patients. This letter provides an opportunity for you to begin learning these new billing processes today.

Approximately two-thirds of Wisconsin Medicaid patients prescribed long acting injectable antipsychotic medications, including Risperdal Consta, fluphenazine decanoate, and haloperidol decanoate, are dually eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare. These patients are enrolled and eligible to receive services from both Medicare and Medicaid. Medicare Part B pays for a limited number of medications for dual eligibles, including *injectable* medications. We are writing to encourage you to bill Medicare first for the long-acting injectable antipsychotic medications.

Physicians, clinics and mental health programs must be Medicare certified in order to bill Medicare for the dispensing and administration of the long acting injectable antipsychotic medications. Providers who are not Medicare certified are missing the opportunity to bill Medicare for patients who are only eligible to receive Medicare services. Providers who are not Medicare certified are also missing the opportunity to bill Medicare for the administration of injections. Providers can refer to the Wisconsin Physicians Services (WPS) website at <http://www.wpsic.com/medicare/provenroll/enroll.shtml> or call WPS at (877) 908-8476 for questions regarding Medicare provider certification.

Providers need to buy the medication ahead of time to administer to patients and then get reimbursed once the drug has been dispensed. This process may raise concerns that an expensive vial will not be dispensed if the person changes medication or moves out of town. You may wish to speak to your local pharmacy to see if they are willing to buy back unopened, unused vials of injectable medication as long as the medication has been stored properly. You may contact me with any additional questions.

Once the drug has been administered, providers should bill Medicare for dually eligible patients using the appropriate Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS). Please see the table below for HCPCS information.

Drug Name	HCPCS Code	Description	Medicare Rate Effective 10/1/05
fluphenazine decanoate 25mg/ml	J2680	Injection, fluphenazine decanoate up to 25mg	\$1.23/25 mg
haloperidol decanoate 50mg/ml	J1631	Injection, haloperidol decanoate 50 mg	\$7.67/50 mg
Risperdal Consta	J2794	Injection, risperidone, long acting, 0.5 mg	\$4.69/0.5 mg

For those patients who are dually eligible, *providers should dispense and administer these long acting injectable antipsychotic medications in their offices or in outpatient mental health facilities.* Pharmacy providers are not able to bill Medicare for these medications for dually eligible patients under current Medicare rules. Please do not send patients who are dually eligible to pharmacies for these medications.

If providers have difficulty becoming Medicare certified or billing their claims directly to Medicare, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, who manufactures Risperdal Consta, has technical support available for all long acting injectable antipsychotic medications. The technical support includes helping providers become Medicare certified and billing claims appropriately to Medicare for reimbursement for the long acting injectable antipsychotic medications. The technical support contact number is 877-747-7524.

Again, billing Medicare when possible is a positive way to prepare for the Medicare Part D drug benefit that is slated to begin January 1, 2006. It will help ease fiscal pressure on state resources, and can provide programs with another income source.

We would like to encourage you to start using Medicare to pay for injectable medications for those clients who are covered by both Medicaid and Medicare.

Thank You.